ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION (IRELAND).

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNT

OF THE

ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSIONERS FOR IRELAND,

for the Year ending the 1st day of August 1856.

TO GEORGE WILLIAM FREDERICK HOWARD
EARL OF CARLISLE,
LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND.

WE, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for Ireland, whose hands and corporate seal are hereunto annexed, beg leave, in pursuance of the provisions of the Act 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 37, to submit to your Excellency the Report of the proceedings of the Commissioners for the year ended the 1st August instant, and to subjoin an account of their receipts and disbursements, distinguishing the specific sources from which all moneys have been derived, and the specific purposes to which they have been applied; also, an account of receipts and disbursements in relation to Primate Boulter's and Primate Robinson's Funds.

The following new Churches, for which provision had been made in previous years, have been completed since the last Report:—

Innoshannon - - - -	in the Diocese of Cork.
Killinagh - and Killersherdenny - - - -	in the Diocese of Kilmore.
Fossey - - - - -	in the Diocese of Leighlin.
Kilbryan - and Killeroran - - - -	in the Diocese of Elphin.
Knappagh - - - -	in the Diocese of Tuam.
Annahilt - - - -	in the Diocese of Dromore.
Kildollagh - - - -	in the Diocese of Connor.
Doon - - - - -	in the Diocese of Emly.
Ballingarry - - - -	in the Diocese of Killaloe.

And the following are either in progress of being built or have been contracted for:—

Drumcree, - Magherafelt, - and Annaghmore - - - -	in the Diocese of Armagh.
Ballynure - and Carnmoney - - - -	in the Diocese of Connor.
Laracor, - Girley, - and Kildalkey - - - -	in the Diocese of Meath.

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Badoney Lower and Kilcronaghan	in the Diocese of Derry.
Dromaleague	in the Diocese of Cork.
Brosna and Ballybunion	in the Diocese of Ardfert.
Mogeesha and Magourney	in the Diocese of Cloyne.
Lissadill	in the Diocese of Elphin.
Horetown	in the Diocese of Ferns.
Carrowallen	in the Diocese of Kilmore.
Aastleagh	in the Diocese of Tuam.

The sum appropriated to Church Works this year has amounted to 41,690*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*; of this sum 5,439*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* has been allocated to the rebuilding of Parish Churches, and 400*l.* to the erection of District Parochial Churches; 3,030*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* to the enlargement of Churches, and the residue has been applied to the repairing of 1,091 Churches; to the enclosure of 17 churchyards in which New Churches have been erected; to the internal painting and cleaning of 77 Churches; being those cases in which the parishioners were prepared to provide a moiety of the charge, and in defraying the expenses incidental to the execution of these several works.

The cases of rebuilding which have been undertaken this year are—

Killeevan	in the Diocese of Clogher.
Kilmaine	in the Diocese of Tuam.
Kilmore	in the Diocese of Kilmore.
Kilmore, Valentia and Kenmare	in the Diocese of Ardfert.
Kilmalooda	in the Diocese of Ross.
Tullylease	in the Diocese of Cloyne.

The District Parochial Churches for the building of which assistance has been granted by the Commissioners are—

Tuogh, in the Union of Abington, in the Diocese of Emly; and Upper Rosses, in the Parish of Drumcliffe, in the Diocese of Elphin.

The Commissioners continue to afford the assistance of their Architect in preparing plans, and in superintending the works of new Churches, undertaken altogether by means of private subscriptions; of this class the following have been brought under their notice this year:—

Aghanagh, in the Parish of Aghanagh, in the Diocese of Elphin.
Glenely, in the Parish of All Saints, in the Diocese of Raphoe.
Lower Moville, in the Parish of Lower Moville, in the Diocese of Derry.
Baronscourt, in the Parish of Ardstraw, in the Diocese of Derry.
Rockcorry, in the Parish of Ematris, in the Diocese of Clogher.
Annarea, in the Parish of Kilmore, in the Diocese of Armagh.
Grey Stones, in the Parish of Delgany, in the Diocese of Dublin.
Killiney, in the Union of Monkstown, in the Diocese of Dublin.
Rathgar, in the Parish of Rathfarnham, in the Diocese of Dublin.

The Churches of St. John, Belfast, and Broomfield, both in the Diocese of Connor, which have been built by means of private funds, without the assistance

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assistance or superintendence of the Architect of the Board, have been taken under the charge of the Commissioners, being Parochial Chapels of Ease.

The cases of enlargement, for which grants have been made, aided by private subscriptions, are—

Mullabrack - - - -	in the Diocese of Armagh.
Clones - - - -	in the Diocese of Clogher.
Moville, Lower - - -	in the Diocese of Derry.
Mayne - - - -	in the Diocese of Meath.
Hollywood, Kilkeel, and Killylcagh - - -	in the Diocese of Down.
Moyntaghs - - - -	in the Diocese of Dromore.
Blessington - - - -	in the Diocese of Dublin.
Cove and Fermoy - - -	in the Diocese of Cloyne.
Lorrha - - - - -	in the Diocese of Killaloe.
Cloydah - - - -	in the Diocese of Leighlin.

The sum received from private contributions has amounted to 5,992 *l.* 15 *s.* 1 *d.*; in which is included a sum of 1,000 *l.* lodged by the Rev. Samuel Montgomery, for the building of a Chapel of Ease in the Parish of Lower Moville, in the Diocese of Derry, without any charge on the Funds of the Board. A larger amount from private subscriptions might have been received, had the Commissioners been able to afford the assistance required from them in several other cases; but the Fund under their administration being insufficient for the several purposes to which it is applicable, they were obliged to require, under their existing regulations, a larger amount of subscription than the respective parties were prepared to give; and we have to state to your Excellency that, in their endeavours to provide for the most urgent demands on their Funds, the Commissioners have, for the present, been obliged to refuse unconditionally many applications from the Clergy and others, which, under different circumstances, it would have been very proper to have complied with. The difficulties with which they have had to contend in this respect, and the dissatisfaction occasioned by their refusing to comply with many reasonable demands, are likely to be much increased during the ensuing year, owing to a considerable defalcation in their Funds, from the non-receipt of a large portion of the moneys which, pursuant to the provisions of the Act 17 Vict. c. 11, should have been levied by the Collector General of Rates in the City of Dublin and the respective Boards of Guardians and other bodies, for the payment of Ministers' Money, the amount received by the Commissioners from the Paymaster of Civil Services being but 4,939 *l.* 10 *s.* 1 *d.*, whilst the payments made by them to the Clergy entitled to Ministers' Money, have amounted this year to 12,369 *l.* 17 *s.* 9 *d.*, making the total sum paid on this account since the passing of the Act in 1854, 21,300 *l.* 7 *s.*; and we have to inform your Excellency that, having regard to the objects to which the Funds vested in the Board by the Church Temporalities Act had been dedicated prior to the Act which imposed on the Board the payment of Ministers' Money, and also to the insufficiency of the Funds at their disposal to provide adequately for those objects, the Commissioners felt it necessary, in the month of March last, to call the attention of the Government, for the second time, to the large advances which had been made by them for payments on this account, and to the small proportion which had been lodged to their credit by the Paymaster of Civil Services; but we regret to state that, notwithstanding the directions then given by your Excellency for the recovery of these moneys, a very small amount has been since received.

Under these circumstances we would take this opportunity of observing to your Excellency that the Commissioners cannot continue to make similar

 advances

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advances without serious detriment to the numerous objects for which they have to provide.

In connexion with the subject of Ministers' Money, we have to report to your Excellency, that there has been but one application received from the owners of premises liable to be rated under the Act of the 17 Vict. c. 11, to redeem the rates to which such premises are liable, and that although the Commissioners have settled the terms of redemption in the case alluded to, subject to the assent of the Lord Lieutenant in Council, they have not yet learned that such assent has been applied for by the party interested.

The Commissioners regret to state that instances of malicious injury perpetrated on Churches have been within the past year brought under their notice. In one of these cases, in which the injury was of a very extensive nature, the Commissioners reported the facts to the Government, through the medium of the Inspector General of the Constabulary, who stated in reply that your Excellency had directed every exertion to be made for the discovery of the offenders, and it is expected, in those cases where the notices required by the Grand Jury Act had been served within the time prescribed, that compensation will be recovered from the respective Counties.

By the half-yearly returns of promotions it appears that 87 Benefices have become vacant within the year, consisting of 20 Dignities and Prebends and 67 Parochial Benefices; of these 25 appear to be taxable.

In the case of the vacancy in the Prebend of Kilmacalane, in the Diocese of Cloyne, the Commissioners, under the provisions of the Church Temporalities Acts, recommended to your Excellency and the Privy Council, that the appointment thereto should be suspended, with which recommendation your Excellency and the Privy Council were pleased to comply; but in the cases of the Archdeaconries of Clonfert and Tuam, although not having cure of souls within any parish appropriated thereto, they did not deem it expedient to make any recommendation to your Excellency and the Privy Council, having regard to the provision in the Church Temporalities Act relating to Archdeaconries and to the representations made to them by the respective Diocesans.

With respect to the Benefice of Loughmoe in the Diocese of Cashel, being a Benefice in which Divine Service had not been celebrated for the three years next preceding the 1st of February 1833, the Commissioners abstained from exercising the powers vested in them under the provisions of the Church Temporalities Act for suspending the appointment of a Clerk to this Benefice, as it appeared that a Church had been lately built in it by private subscriptions, at which it was represented by the Diocesan, that a congregation of from 70 to 100 persons attended.

The suspensions of the appointments of the Precentorship of Kilmacduagh, and to the Prebends of Kilteskill, in the Diocese of Clonfert, and of Ardagh, in the Diocese of Killala, have been removed by your Excellency and the Privy Council, subject to the severance of their revenues, consisting of portions of rent-charge which have been annexed to the Rectories or Vicarages of the several parishes from which the rent-charge arises.

A portion of land belonging to the Deanery of Christ Church, the revenues of which dignity are vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, has been conveyed to the Dublin and Wicklow Railway Company, and the sum of 984*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* which was awarded to the Commissioners as purchase-money and compensation for damage, has been invested in Government securities to the credit of this property.

Thirty applications for the purchase of Perpetuities have been received: the sum realised from this source within the year has amounted to 6,046*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*, and from the liquidation of mortgages, granted for purchases effected in former years, to 1,489*l.* 8*s.*

A sum

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A sum of 7,014 *l.* 6 *s.* 4 *d.* has been invested in Government securities to the credit of the Perpetuity Purchase Fund, and a temporary investment in like securities, to the amount of 4,854 *l.* 6 *s.* 8 *d.*, has been made to the credit of the General Fund, pending the execution of the several Church Works for which the same is pledged.

A sum of 1,619 *l.* 1 *s.* 7 *d.* has likewise been invested in Government stock to the credit of Primate Boulter's Fund, and a sum of 26 *l.* 16 *s.* 4 *d.* to that of Primate Robinson's Fund.

The annual account of the Trust Fund arising under Bishop Gore's Will, from the Impropriate Tithes of Cahir Parish, in the Diocese of Lismore, has been furnished by the Commissioners to the Bishop of Cashel and Waterford, pursuant to the direction of the Court of Chancery. From this fund the Commissioners have granted the sum of 2,000 *l.* for the repairs and improvement of Clonmel Church, in the Diocese of Lismore, on the condition of a sum of 500 *l.* being provided by private subscriptions, of which the Bishop reports there has been collected 400 *l.*

All which is submitted to your Excellency's consideration.

(signed) JOHN G. ARMAGH.
MAZIERE BRADY, C.
R^D DUBLIN.
JOS. H. MEATH.
PLUNKET TUAM, &c.
J. T. OSSORY and FERNS.
HEN^Y MEREDYTH.
W^M CH^AS QUIN.

SEAL.

(signed) *Thos. Bushe,* Secretary.

Board Room, 24, Upper Merrion-street,
August 1856.

(A true copy.)
(signed) *Thos. Bushe,* Secretary.

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BY THE ECCLESIAS

AN ACCOUNT of all their RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS for One Year, ended the
been derived, and showing the Total Amount derived from each Source,

RECEIPTS.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Balance in Bank, 1 August 1855 (General Fund)	-	-	-	10,585	17	6
See Estates:						
Received from—						
Waterford and Lismore	4,243	7	–			
Killala and Achonry	3,549	7	1½			
Clonfert and Kilmacduagh	2,535	15	10			
Raphoe	5,057	5	9½			
Ossory	8,289	18	10			
Cork and Ross	5,965	14	11			
Ardagh	3,015	5	1			
Elphin	6,787	1	3			
Dromore	4,190	12	4½			
Kildare and Deanery of Christ Church	7,161	17	2½			
Clogher	8,942	2	–½			
				54,738	7	5½
Suspended benefices and dignities, and disappropriated tithes	-	-	-	17,592	14	10
Charge on the See of Derry	-	-	-	2,792	17	4
Tax on Bishoprics and benefices	-	-	-	11,229	8	5
Glebe-house loan instalments	-	-	-	3,912	8	5
Sales of perpetuities	-	-	-	7,535	3	4
Interest on Government securities standing to credit of General Fund	-	-	-	2,058	–	–
Ditto - - - ditto - - - standing to credit of Perpetuity Purchase Fund	-	-	-	1,409	11	4
Ditto on moneys invested in Government securities for repairs of Trustee Chapels of Ease	-	-	-	10	4	1
Ditto - - - ditto - - - invested for Endowment Fund of Dunlewy Church, Diocese of Raphoe	-	-	-	12	5	4
Interest on Perpetuity Mortgages	-	-	-	1,469	1	3½
Sale of Government stock (General Fund)	-	-	-	13,175	0	10
Contributions from Economy Funds for repairs of Cathedral Churches	-	-	-	100	–	–
Ministers' Money, under 17 Vict., c. 11	-	-	-	4,939	10	1
Income tax refunded by Commissioners of Inland Revenue	-	-	-	2,872	12	3
Bequest for keeping Donamon Church in repair	-	-	-	6	18	2
Bishop Gore's Fund, for fees for collection, &c.	-	-	-	196	5	9
Sale of perpetuity printed forms	-	-	-	3	9	6
Moneys deposited to pay expenses of ascertaining terms of perpetuities	-	-	-	12	8	1
Private subscriptions for rebuilding, enlarging, and alteration of Churches	-	-	-	5,992	15	1
Ditto for requisites for the celebration of Divine Service	-	-	-	5	13	4
Moneys granted for Church purposes and returned unapplied	-	-	-	94	14	5
			£.	140,746	–	10

Dr. PRIMATE BOULTER'S AND PRIMATE ROBINSON'S FUNDS.

	£.	s.	d.
Balance in Primate Boulter's Fund, 1 August 1855	3,625	3	5
Ditto - - Primate Robinson's - - ditto	—		
Received on account of Primate Boulter's Fund	4,560	16	10
Ditto - - - - - Primate Robinson's	20	16	
£.	8,212	16	

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ISSIONERS FOR IRELAND:

of August 1856; distinguishing the specific Sources from which all Moneys have the specific Purposes to which the Receipts have been applied.

DISBURSEMENTS.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rebuilding Churches	19,798	17	2			
Enlarging ditto	4,718	3	–			
Repairs of ditto	32,498	16	6			
Extraordinary Repairs of ditto	440	7	3			
				57,451	8	11
Requisites for the celebration of Divine Service in the several Churches and Chapels	6,894	19	6			
Clerk's and Sexton's Salaries	23,008	16	5			
Organists, Organ Blowers, and Tuning	1,527	11	8			
Fuel used in Churches	3,347	6	1			
				34,778	18	8
Payment of Interest on charge on Kilmore See House, to Representatives of the late Bishop (Dr. Leslie), under 6 & 7 Vict. c. 57	431	9	1			
Stipends to Dublin Curates, under 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 37	1,841	13	2			
Same to vicars choral and curates of suspended benefices	3,488	15	6			
Augmentation to incumbents of small benefices, under 3 & 4 Vict. c. 101	1,988	9	11			
Stipends to diocesan schoolmasters	169	2	1			
				7,919	9	9
Ministers' Money, Payments under Act of 17 Vict. c. 111, to incumbents of such benefices as formerly received income from that source	–	–	–	12,369	17	9
Income tax paid direct	–	–	–	1,058	15	7
Salaries to Commissioners, Secretary, Treasurer, and Clerks, &c.	–	–	–	5,597	1	8
Purchase of Government stock from Perpetuity Purchase Fund	–	–	–	7,014	6	4
Ditto ditto from General Fund	–	–	–	4,854	6	8
Ditto ditto Account of Deanery of Christ Church	–	–	–	984	16	2
Endowment Fund, paid Incumbent of Dunlewy Church, Diocese of Raphoe	–	–	–	12	5	4
Rent, coals, candles, and other incidents	908	11	4			
Receipt stamps	9	9	3			
Postage	196	12	11			
Fees for registering and enrolling perpetuity certificates, &c.	68	5	4			
Expenses incurred in the valuation of lands	146	8	4			
Rents, taxes, and other expenses connected with monsal lands and other lands undemised	257	5	–			
Quit and Crown rents	61	6	9			
Advertising for proposals for Church works, &c.	82	17	–			
Stationery and printing for one year	249	8	–			
				1,979	18	11
Solicitors, for law clerks	–	–	–	290	–	–
Tax on benefices overpaid and returned	–	–	–	–	8	5
Proportion of rentcharges returned to incumbents and others	–	–	–	191	9	2
Perpetuity purchase-money returned	–	–	–	465	12	1
Stamp for power of attorney to receive interest on account of Bishop Gore's Fund	–	–	–	1	–	–
Balance in Bank, General Fund, 31 July 1856	–	–	–	5,776	15	10
			£.	140,746	–	10

PRIMATE BOULTER'S AND PRIMATE ROBINSON'S FUNDS. *Cr.*

	£.	s.	d.
Grants in augmentation of small benefices, Primate Boulter's Fund	3,851	12	11
Purchase of 1,682 *l.* 7 *s.* 3 *d.* Consols ditto	1,619	1	7
Cost of Power of Attorney to receive bonus on Bank Stock, ditto	1	10	–
Purchase of 27 *l.* 16 *s.* 4 *d.* Consols, Primate Robinson's Fund	26	16	4
Balance in Primate Boulter's Fund, 31 July 1856	2,713	15	9
£.	8,212	16	7

(E. E.)

(signed) *James E. Stopford*, LL.D., Treasurer.

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ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION
(IRELAND).

ANNUAL REPORT and ACCOUNT of the ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSIONERS for *Ireland* to the Lord Lieutenant, for the Year ending the 1st day of August 1856.

(*Presented to Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
5 *February* 1857.

13.

Under 1 *oz.*

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